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MB Commerce

TransCanada
In business to deliver

November 29, 2010

Dore Schwinden
Director
Montana Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 200501
Helena, MT 59620-0501

Dear Mr. Schwinden:

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I am writing to describe the positive experience TransCanada has had in working with the Energy Promotion and Development Division within the Montana Department of Commerce. Over the past several years, TransCanada has moved forward on three large energy infrastructure projects in Montana: the Bison natural gas pipeline, which crosses southeastern Montana and is nearing completion; the Keystone XL crude oil pipeline and Baker "on ramp" facility, which are in the process of permitting and development; and the proposed Chinook electric transmission line that is intended to carry wind power generated in Montana to markets in the Southwest.

In advancing these projects, TransCanada has worked closely with members of the Energy Promotion and Development Division in several capacities. First, the Division has been an important two-way conduit of information as we have informed state officials regarding the nature, benefits, and needs of our project, while Division personnel have, in turn, kept us informed of the policies and concerns of the State of Montana.

The Division has also provided very useful guidance to TransCanada on how to reach out and engage Montana stakeholders and how to navigate the various processes required of proposed energy projects under Montana law. Further, the Division has helped build support among those groups necessary to advance TransCanada's projects: the people of Montana, the prospective customers of Montana energy products, and the federal and other agencies that play crucial roles in the permitting process.

In sum, we have found the Division staffed by knowledgeable public servants who have been supportive of TransCanada's business development activities, who have been responsive to our requests for assistance and direction, and who have been pro-active in promoting economic development in Montana.

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Scott Farris

Director, Government Relations

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